



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

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BROOKS KICKS-OFF THE ENTREPRENEURS NETWORK

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks today marked the beginning of The Entrepreneurs Network (TEN), welcoming the inaugural class of twenty entrepreneurs to the "Boot Camp". The Entrepreneurs Network is a new initiative of the County Executive's, which was first announced in her 2006 State of the County Address. The ultimate goal of Brooks' initiative is to jump-start local job creation through business expansion and development. The County Executive was joined by the Board of Directors of this new organization for the kick-off of the program.

"Not only is this an exciting time for the individuals and companies participating in this new, innovative program, it is also an exciting time for our local economy," Brooks said. "On one hand, TEN represents an important step forward in our commitment to fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial environment here in Monroe County and our region. On the other hand, the participants represent a commitment to our community and its future. The bottom-line remains creating new jobs for local residents."

The inaugural class of The Entrepreneurs Network includes companies located throughout the Rochester area, as well as Buffalo and Ithaca, representing a variety of high-tech industries. The expertise of the participants varies from biotech, energy, software, Internet, telecom, photonics, and medical device imaging. The participants average 5.3 years in business, with 9.2 employees, and projected revenues of nearly \$2 million.

"We are very pleased with the response we received for TEN's inaugural class. The companies selected are representative of the emerging growth industries that are vital to our economy as we move forward," Brooks said. "We are excited to be able to work with each of the companies to support their future growth and success."

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The “Boot Camp” is just the first aspect of The Entrepreneurs Network’s six-month program. Following the Boot Camp, Workshops and Panel Events will be held to optimize the participants’ exposure to, and interaction with, leading local and national entrepreneurial experts. The Panel Events will be open to the public, so companies throughout the region can benefit from the program.

More information on the public Panel Events and The Entrepreneurs Network is available on the Monroe County website at www.monroecounty.gov.

Background on The Entrepreneurs Network:

County Executive Maggie Brooks announced in January 2006, as part of her State of the County Address, the formation of The Entrepreneurs Network (TEN). TEN offers a practical, business-oriented, and hands-on educational program in which entrepreneurs are exposed to world-renowned speakers with expertise in start-up companies. These experts will share information, including how to secure venture capital, form strategic alliances, identify market strategies and other practical information necessary to succeed in today’s competitive business environment.

TEN is specifically designed for entrepreneurs who have already launched their business and are looking to dramatically improve the odds of growing revenues, improving fundraising success, developing an integrated and supported business plan, creating a dynamic management team, and understanding and capitalizing on unique customer and market opportunities.

Candidates for TEN are founders, CEOs or hold a controlling position in an established technology-based business.

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